

**ABTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:**

[0091] In adaptive cruise control method for an automotive vehicle, an inter-vehicle distance between the vehicle and a preceding vehicle which is traveling ahead of the vehicle is detected, a velocity of at least one of the vehicle and the preceding vehicle is detected, a traveling state of the vehicle is controlled on the basis of the detected inter-vehicle distance and a target inter-vehicle distance, a delay is provided for one of the detected velocities of the vehicle and the preceding vehicle which is used to set the target inter-vehicle distance at a time of a detection of one of the velocities of the vehicle and the preceding vehicle which is used to set the target inter-vehicle distance, and the target inter-vehicle distance is set on the basis of the detected velocity of one of the vehicle and the preceding vehicle for which the delay is provided.

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